

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jeroen Johannes Gerardus VAN SOEST et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD FOR THE SEPARATION OF
STARCH PARTICLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please substitute Claims 1-15 as originally filed, with Claims 1-15 as filed in the Article 34 amendment of January 22, 2001. The pages containing Claims 1-15 are marked "AMENDED SHEET" and are attached hereto. Following the insertion of Claims 1-15, please amend these claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 3 as follows:

A) --3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein in step b) i) the hydrophobic phase: water ratio is 80:20 to 20:80.

Amend claim 4 as follows:

--4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the oil-in-water emulsion contains a surfactant.